

**Forest Policy, Legal and Institutional Frameworks
Information form**

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| nfp-update of: | <i>FINLAND</i> | |
| Revised on: | <i>23 February 2007 (on the basis of the MCPFE report)</i> | |
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| On the basis of the information provided by: | Miika Temisevä : miika.temiseva@mmm.fi Ville Manner : ville.manner@mmm.fi | |
| Missing information To be completed by /on | <i>Details of HR in forest administration Main elements of the forest law for SFM Institutions responsible for law enforcement Number of graduated students Main research programmes Forest revenues</i> | |
| Edited: | August 2008 | by Blanchez |

1. FOREST POLICY

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| Forest Policy Statement | P.1 |
| <u>Name of the policy statement:</u> The National Forest Programme 2015 is the main instrument for forest policy formulation and it also covers all policy areas. The NFP is both strategy and action plan. <u>Date of endorsement:</u> 25 January 2008 by the Forest Council and approved on 27 March 2008 by the Government of Finland | |
| Additional information (if any) | P.1.Inf |
| <u>Forest policy</u> | |

The roots of Finnish forest policy go back to the 19th century, which is when general concern over the state of forests was awakened in the country. Finland's forest resources were dwindling at an alarming rate, due to the selective felling of the stoutest timber and the gathering of firewood. Before this period forest destruction had been caused by the slash-and-burn agriculture and the manufacturing of pit tar. In 1859, the Government established a forest management authority, subsequently named the Metsähallitus (Forest and Park Services), to restore the state of the forests and to improve their management. In 1886 a new Forest Act was passed, prohibiting the destruction of forests and striving to safeguard the regeneration of forests after felling.

After Finland's independence in 1917, a reform with a significant impact on forest policy was passed in the 1920s. Tenant farmers were given the right to buy the land they had held under their tenancy agreements. This was the beginning of Finnish family forestry. During the 1990s, Finnish forest policy was thoroughly reformed. At that time, the concept of sustainable forestry was redefined, so that the requirement of ecological and social sustainability was given an importance equal to the sustainability of timber production.

The objective of forest policy is to ensure the welfare founded on the use of forests and diversity of the forest nature. The tools of forest policy are legislation, public funding and information. Sustainable forestry has several dimensions: economic, ecological, social and cultural sustainability. Their reconciliation is a great challenge to which forest policy needs to respond. Success can be evaluated through the criteria and indicators for sustainable forestry.

The main elements of Finnish forest policy are defined in the National Forest Programme 2015, while the regional objectives are written down in the Regional Forest Programme. The Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland METSO supplements the National Forest Programme in objectives concerning ecological sustainability. The long-term planning of forest policy is supported by the Future Forum on Forests. (Ville Manner)

Forest Policy Documentation – electronic copy or web link

P.1.Doc

Finland's National Forest Programme 2015 -

http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/5fLUy9oi5/5yGFtgJQ5/Files/CurrentFile/Finlands_National_Forest_Programme_2015_final.pdf

Publications of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 2/1999

<http://www.mmm.fi> ; <http://www.forest.fi> ; <http://www.metla.fi>

Reference document: Kokkonen, M. & Hytönen, L. 2007. Future Review for the Forest Sector – Outline of the Forest Council concerning focuses and aims for the forest sector. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Sub national forest policy statement

P.1.1

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|------------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| Number of regions/states/provinces | Names of the regions/states/provinces that have formulated a forest policy statement | <i>na</i> | <i>na</i> |
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Additional information

P.1.1. inf

Forest Centre

It is a regional Government authority, with the task of enforcing the Forest Act and of promoting sustainable forestry. The Forest Centres are mainly funded by the government. There are 13 Forest Centres in Finland.

Sub national level - documentation – electronic copy or web link

P.1.1.Doc

na

Main objectives of the Forest Policy

P.2

Objectives of the nfp

- Securing a competitive operating environment for the forest industry and forest management;
- Enhancing the climate- and energy-related benefits of forests;
- Protecting the biological diversity and environmental benefits of forests;
- Promoting the use of forests as a source of culture and recreation;
- Strengthening skills, expertise and acceptability of the forest sector;
- Promoting sustainable forest management in international forest policy.

Main guiding principles or instruments for policy implementation

P.3

Main instruments to promote SFM are governmental subsidies and loans to private forest owners to secure the sustainability of timber production, maintain the biological diversity and manage the forest ecosystems. Also in taxation policy some deductions are possible for private forest owners to promote forest management and forestry. Several programmes have been implemented to support rural viability and entrepreneurship. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Trade and Industry have supported financially the rural development. Under the METSO programme the compensation is paid for private forest owners to preserve valuable forest habitats.

Additional information (if any)

P.3. Inf

The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1996/1094).
<http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961094>

The Forest Act (1996/1093)
<http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961093>

Government investment subsidies are granted for small and medium-sized enterprises to purchase and produce energy from wood. There have also been harvesting and haulage subsidies in the management of young stand forests by virtue of the Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry.

State aid is paid to promote forest management planning and forest extension (guidance, planning and education) and supervision as well as to promote restoration and forest improvement projects. Projects for improving forest roads have also got significant aid.

The nature conservation programme METSO in Southern Finland was launched in 2002. METSO programme is a voluntary biodiversity conservation programme which is based on forest-owners' willingness to conserve their forests. The budget of METSO programme was 62 millions euros in 2003- 2007. Within the programme forest owners can receive compensation due to nature

conservation in private forests.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Ministry of Labour have jointly combined their regional forces in the Employment and Economic Development Centres (T&E Centre). The main tasks of T&E Centre in the forest sector are to support and advise small and medium-sized enterprises, to promote technological development, to implement regional labour policies, to plan and organise forest training and to promote and develop rural enterprise activities.

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) has been one of the main financial supporters of rural development and entrepreneurship.

| Policy implementation by policy area | | P.4 |
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| <i>Land use and forest area and OWL</i> | | P4.1 |
| a) Legal reference | The Land Use and Building Act Date of issuance: 1999 Formal status: Legal | |
| b) Objectives | The Land Use and Building Act aims at organising the land use and building activities in such way as to enhance the conditions for the creation of good living environments and to promote sustainable development. | |
| c) Main institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring and evaluation of the land use) - Regional Environmental Centres (monitoring of land use, implementation of the Land Use and Building Act) - Municipalities (monitoring of the Land Use and Building Act) - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (development, monitoring and evaluation of policies concerning forest area) - Regional Forest Centres (monitoring and implementation) - Metsähallitus (implementation) - Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (monitoring, research) | |
| d) Main instruments | The Land Use and Building Act regulates the overall land use policy. The Forest Act regulates forest felling and includes an obligation to secure regeneration of forest after the final felling. Forest management recommendations of the Forestry Development Centre Tapio, Metsähallitus (responsible of state forests) and different companies set guidelines for forest management. | |
| <i>Carbon balance</i> | | P.4.2 |
| Legal reference | Name: 1) The National Emission Trading Act (2004), 2) The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1997) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal | |
| Objectives | In the National Climate and Energy Strategy the main objective is to replace non-renewables by renewable energy sources. Carbon stocks can be increased by maintaining the growth potential of commercial forests on a good level, by keeping the forests genetically diverse and healthy and by taking care of carbon sequestration in soil reserves. Carbon can also be bound in the products of the wood industry. Future Review for the Forest Sector carbon stocks and climate change are broadly concerned issues. Preparation for the effects of climate change in the management, use and protecting of forests is one of the key targets. | |

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| Main institutions | <p>-Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Trade and Industry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation)</p> <p>-Energy Market Authority (monitoring emission trading)</p> <p>-Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring)</p> <p>-Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres (research and development)</p> <p>-Statistics Finland (research)</p> |
| Main instruments | <p>National Emission Trading Act was set to enhance reducing of greenhouse gas emissions in the cost-effective way.</p> <p>Under the Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry State aid has been paid into management of young stand forests to support wood-based energy production.</p> <p>Programme for Promoting Renewable Energy 2003–2006 is the basis for enhancing renewable energy sources. The goal of the programme is to make the energy produced with renewable energy sources competitive on the open market. The promotion programme is part of the National Climate Strategy.</p> <p>Research and development of bioenergy have been subsidised. Carbon sequestration has been addressed in research programmes.</p> |
| <i>Health and vitality</i> | |
| Legal reference | <p>Name: 1)The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1997)</p> <p>2) The Act on Trade in Forest Reproductive Material (2002)</p> <p>3) The Forest Insect and Fungi Damage Prevention Act (1991)</p> |
| Objectives | <p>The main objective defined in the Future Review for the Forest Sector is to maintain the health and vitality on a good level in commercial forests and in conservation areas by enhancing forest management and the conservation of biodiversity. Preventing forest damages is also main objective for the health and vitality of the forests.</p> <p>The objective mentioned in NFP is to maintain all areas health and vital by reducing the environmental load caused by forestry and by carrying out the silviculture in accordance with recommendations.</p> |
| Main institutions | <p>-Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation)</p> <p>-Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring)</p> <p>-Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres (research and development)</p> <p>-Regional Forest Centres (monitoring, extension)</p> |
| Main instruments | <p>Under the Financing Act, State subsidies and loans may be granted to private forest owners for management work that aims to secure the sustainability of timber production, maintain the biological diversity of forests, and manage the forest ecosystems.</p> <p>The Act on Trade in Forest Reproductive Material stands through provisions regulating the production, sale, import and export of seedlings.</p> <p>The Forest Insect and Fungi Damage Prevention Act limits the storage of coniferous timber in forests in the summer, requires that damaged trees be removed from the forest and regulates measures for the prevention of insect and fungi damage</p> |
| <i>Production and use of wood</i> | |

P.4.4

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| Legal reference | 1) The Forest Act (1997) 2) The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1997) |
| Objectives | The objective of NFP is to increase the annual harvesting of industrial roundwood in such a way that the high level of silviculture and ecosystem management is sustained. Ample, biologically diverse and high quality forest resources enable versatile use of the forests. The objective in the Future Review for the Forest Sector is to utilise the felling potential of the forests in the entire country considering sustainability and economic aspects and to utilise wood in an increasingly versatile way for competitive and customer-oriented products and services as well as to enhance the use of wood-based energy and to develop bio-refinery plant technology. |
| Main institutions | -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Regional Forest Centres (monitoring, implementation) -Metsähallitus (implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring) |
| Main instruments | The Forest Act and the Act on the Financing aim at promoting the sustainable economically, socially and ecologically sustainable management of forests. Regional Forest programmes (updated in 2005) promote the regional management of forests including wood supply, industry, recreation and conservation. Forest management plans for private forest owners include recommendations for the production and use of wood. In addition of regular forest extension services special training and education campaigns have been implemented regionally to support the production and use of wood. |
| <i>Production and use of non-wood goods and services, provision of especially recreation</i> | |
| Legal reference | Name: The Nature Conservation Act Date of issuance: 1997 Formal status: legal |
| Objectives | In the NFP and the Future Review for the Forest Sector the objective is to utilise forests in an increasingly versatile way for competitive and customer-oriented products and services and to maintain the resources of natural products as such wild berries and mushrooms on a good level. The objective is also to consider the multiple needs of outdoor and recreational use as well as game management in silviculture and forestry. Hiking routes are constructed and maintained in such a way that recreational use of the forests continues to grow and can be directed in areas reserved for outdoor use. |
| Main institutions | -Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation of the Nature Conservation Act) -Regional Environmental Centres (monitoring and implementation) -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Regional Forest Centres (monitoring, implementation) -Metsähallitus (implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring) -Environmental NGOs (e.g. National Association for Recreational Sports and Outdoor Activities) |

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| <p>Main instruments</p> | <p>The Nature Conservation Act aims at maintaining supporting the sustainable use of natural resources and the natural environment. The traditional Finnish legal concept of everyman's right allows free right of access to the land and waterways, and the right to collect natural products such as wild berries and mushrooms, no matter who owns the land</p> <p>Strategy for Renewable Natural Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry contains goals to maintain stocks of game husbandry and products picked from forests on a good level.</p> <p>VILMAT programme, developed by The Ministry of the Environment, was set to increase environmental education, general interest in outdoor recreation, and nature tourism in Finland.</p> <p>The Reindeer Husbandry Act and the Hunting act promote the use non-wood forest products.</p> <p>The Outdoor Recreation Act allows the establishment of hiking trails on both private and State land. The Act also stipulates that forest management, hunting, fishing and other use of State recreational areas must be organised in a way that takes the needs of outdoor recreation into account.</p> |
| <p>Biodiversity</p> | <p>P.4.6</p> |
| | <p><i>Ecosystem /habitat /protected areas /landscape patterns</i></p> |
| <p>Legal reference</p> | <p>1) The Nature Conservation Act (1997) 2) The Forest Act (1997) Formal status: legal</p> |
| <p>Objectives</p> | <p>The objective defined in Future Review for the Forest Sector is to stop the regression of forest species and habitats and to secure biodiversity through measures in commercial forests and in conservation areas.</p> <p>The METSO programme aims to preserve valuable forests habitats while also allowing forests to be commercially utilised to the benefit of rural economies and livelihood</p> |
| <p>Main institutions</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring) -Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres (research and development) -Regional Forest Centres (implementation and monitoring) -Metsähallitus (implementation) |
| <p>Main instruments</p> | <p>The National Strategy and Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2006-2016 is aiming to enhance the state of biodiversity of the environment.</p> <p>The Forest Act contains definitions of habitats that are especially important for the preservation of biodiversity in forest ecosystems. If the habitats are in natural state or resample natural state, all management work carried out in them must preserve their natural features.</p> |
| | <p><i>Species diversity, incl. tree species composition and threatened forest species</i></p> |
| <p>Legal reference</p> | <p>1) The Nature Conservation Act (1997) 2) The Forest Act (1997) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal</p> |

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| Objectives | Same as above |
| Main institutions | Same as above |
| Main instruments | Same as above |
| <i>Genetic diversity, incl. in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production</i> | |
| Legal reference | Name: The Act on Trade Forest Reproductive Material (seed production) Date of issuance: 2002 Formal status: legal |
| Objectives | In The Future Review for the Forest Sector the objective is ensure that the genetic resources in animals and plants are protected, maintained and used sustainably, in order to preserve their genetic diversity to meet future needs. The target is to preserve the genetic variety of tree species and local populations, to ensure these varieties can adapt and thrive even where conditions change. |
| Main institutions | -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Trade and Industry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research, monitoring and maintenance of genetic reserves) -Finnish Food Safety Authority, EVIRA (implementation and monitoring) -Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres (research and development) |
| Main instruments | The Act on Trade Forest Reproductive Material aims to ensure the creation of healthy and vigorous seedling stands through provisions regulating the production, sale, import and export of seedlings, which must be suited to the site in terms of their species and provenance, free of diseases, viable and otherwise suitable. The National Genetic Resources Programme was set to promote the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources in agriculture, horticulture and forestry. Genetic resources have been preserved in specially established genetic forest reserves, nature reserves, breeding stocks and tree collections (Metla) Genetic resources are also preserved in commercial forests and conservation areas by enhanced forest management. |
| <i>Protective services</i> | |
| Legal reference | 1) The Forest Act (1997) 2) Act on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure (1994) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal |
| Objectives | In the Future Review for the Forest Sector the objective is that the ecological state of the waterways is at least good by 2015 and that soil protection is developed. Forests that are in good condition improve the quality of groundwater and prevent the topsoil and humus from washing into the waterways. |
| Main institutions | -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring) -Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres |

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| | (research and development) -Regional Forest Centres (implementation and monitoring) -Metsähallitus (implementation) |
| Main instruments | The aim of the Act on Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure is to further the assessment of environmental impact and consistent consideration of this impact in planning and decisionmaking, and at the same time to increase the information available to citizens and their opportunities to participate. Under the Water Protecting Policy Outlines to 2015 there are goals for forestry to reduce environmental load causing eutrophication. The purpose of the Government Decision on Protective Forests is to secure the maintenance of high-altitude sensitive ecosystems near the timber line in northern Lapland and in other areas where forests prevent erosion or provide shelter from wind. |
| <i>Economic viability</i> | |
| | P.4.8 |
| Legal reference | 1) The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1997) 2) The Forest Act (1997) Date of issuance: see above Formal status: legal |
| Objectives | According the Finland's National Forest Programme and the Future Review for the Forest Sector the main objective is to improve the competitiveness of the national economy and to improve the employment situation. At the same time the production and consumption of the forest related products will be changed to cause less strain to the environment. In FRFS the objectives are also to improve the profitability of existing products by more effective production and further development of the technology and to improve cost-efficiency of forestry. |
| Main institutions | -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Trade and Industry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Forestry Development Centre Tapio (development and research) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research and monitoring) -Regional Forest Centres (implementation, monitoring) -Forest Management Associations (implementation, monitoring) |
| Main instruments | The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry is made to promote the sustainable management of forests in accordance with the Forest Act. Under the Financing Act, State aid and loans may be granted to private forest owners for management work that aims to secure the sustainability of timber production, maintain the biological diversity of forests, and manage the forest ecosystems. Under the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) the small forest related enterprises have been supported in rural areas. Ministry of Trade and Industry and T&E Centres have supported financially investments and development of entrepreneurship in rural areas. Forestry Development Centre Tapio, Metsähallitus and many forest industry company have updated their forest management recommendations and guidelines. Regional Forest Centres have been developed their advisory services for private forest owners. Deduction in taxation dealing with forestry related costs. |
| <i>Employment</i> | |
| | P.4.9 |
| Legal reference | Labour Protecting Act Date of issuance: 2002 Formal status: legal |

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| Objectives | <p>In The Future Review for the Forest Sector the objective is that the forest sector is seen as an interesting work environment with opportunities in order to ensure a supply of skilled labour corresponding to the demands of the employment market throughout Finland.</p> <p>Special attention should be paid on supplying labour for wood procurement and silviculture and on training and well-being. The objective is also to strengthen entrepreneurship based on tangible and intangible products and services of the forest and to promote new business activity and creation of new jobs.</p> |
| Main institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Trade and Industry (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (work environment) -Forest industry (implementation) -Metsähallitus (implementation) -Municipalities (implementation) |
| Main instruments | <p>According to NFP the increased harvesting of wood for energy and enhanced value added in wood product industry will have the greatest effect on employment.</p> <p>General laws governing occupational health and safety, such as the Labour Protection Act, the Supervision of Labour Protection Act, the Act on Young Employees, and the Act on Working Hours, also apply to the forest sector. Legal provisions which apply to the forest sector in particular cover issues such as harvesting work, the use of pesticides, the safe use of tools and protective equipment, and joint accommodation for forestry workers.</p> <p>Improvement of the nature tourism and recreational services in rural areas have had a positive impact on the employment, e.g VILMAT programme was set to enhance employment in nature tourism and support the vitality of the rural areas.</p> <p>State subsidies for bioenergy have granted to support employment in the forest related energy sector.</p> |
| Public awareness | |
| | P.4.10 |
| Legal reference | <p>Name: Act on the Openness of Government Activities</p> <p>Date of issuance: 1999</p> <p>Formal status: legal</p> |
| Objectives | <p>In the Future Review for the Forest Sector the objective is to continue the versatile national cooperation of different government sectors and interest groups. Another objective is to strengthen the role of scientific community and non-governmental organisations in international processes.</p> <p>The object is also to increase media awareness. The forests are very important to the Finns as a source of recreation, but their economies and ecological importance is less and less understood.</p> <p>Supporting of school education in forest matters and the training and advising of forest owners are important targets.</p> |
| Main institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Education (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Regional Forest Centres (implementation) -Regional Environmental Centres (implementation) -Non-governmental organisations (implementation) |
| Main | <p>The aim of the Act on the Openness of Government Activities is guarantee the public openness in conversation and in public actions.</p> |

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| instruments | <p>The one aim of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development is to increase public participation into conversation of the forest and environment related issues.</p> <p>Nature conservation Act aims also to promote public awareness and general interest in nature.</p> <p>The information plan for NFP was made in 2005 to increase public awareness of the implementation and development of NFP.</p> | |
| <i>Research, training and education</i> | | P.4.11 |
| Legal reference | <p>Name: Forest Management Association Act (1998)</p> <p>Date of issuance: see above</p> <p>Formal status: legal</p> | |
| Objectives | <p>According to the Future Review for Forest Sector the objective is to promote high-quality education, increase business know-how and take care of continuous development of the skills of those already in the work life. The objective is also to strengthen the expertise and innovation system of the forest cluster in such a way that research and development, training, administration and business activities function in close cooperation, as well to improve the communication between researchers and practical operators throughout the research and development process from planning of the research to utilisation of the results.</p> | |
| Main institutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Education (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -The Finnish National Board of Education (implementation) -Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla (research) -Forestry research organisations, e.g. Metsäteho and Pellervon taloudellinen tutkimuslaitos (research, training) -Finnish Environmental Institute (research and development) -Non-governmental organisation (implementation) | |
| Main instruments | <p>The Act on Forestry Management Associations aims to promote cooperation between forest owners and advisory services in forestry. According to the act the task of the Forest Management Associations is to provide services needed by forest owners in forestry activities and to organise professional assistance to forest owners in their own territories. At all levels the forest related education is developed to meet the current and topical requirements of forest sector. The working group co-ordinated by Ministry of Education was established to enhance forest education. Many research projects supporting SFM have been implemented</p> | |
| <i>Cultural and spiritual values</i> | | P.4.12 |
| Legal reference | <p>Name: 1) Antiquities Act (1963)</p> <p>2) Land Use and Building Act (2000)</p> <p>3) Nature Conservation Act (1997)</p> <p>Date of issuance: see above</p> <p>Formal status: legal</p> | |
| Objectives | <p>The objective defined in the Future Review for the Forest Sector is to maintain and utilise the versatile cultural heritage related to the forests on a wide scale. Culturally sustainable forestry takes into account the traditions of forest use, strengthens these and creates new traditions. The aim is that Finns know the various ways of using the forest also in the future and utilise the forest culture for business and in their free time.</p> <p>According to NFP the forests are cultural environments. The forestry organisations must pay more attention to sites with cultural and historical value by intensifying their co-operation with cultural authorities.</p> | |

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| Main institutions | -Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of the Environment (development, monitoring, evaluation and implementation) -Municipalities (development and implementation) -The National Board of Antiquities (implementation) -Metsähallitus (implementation) -Non-governmental organisations (implementation) |
| Main instruments | The Antiquities Act aims to protect cultural values. From the perspective of forestry, the most important of these are fixed sites, which generally are stone constructions such as graves and burial grounds. Known sites must be taken into account in the use and management of forests. One aim of The Nature Conservation Act is to preserve nature's beauty and scenic value. According to the Land Use and Building Act culturally and scenically valuable forest environments must be conserved. In the planning of Regional Forest Programmes the National Board of Antiquities and local museums have been consulted. A number of areas have been designated as valuable traditional landscapes. Methods used in the management of these areas include conservation of open agricultural landscapes, protection of buildings in traditional rural environments, land use planning, information and advisory services, and education. |

2. LEGISLATION

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| Current forest law or equivalent (for example: Act or Code) | F1 |
| Name of the forest law: Forest Act (1093/1996; amendments up to 552/2004 included) Date of enactment: 1997 by: | |
| Additional information on forest law or equivalent | F1. Inf. |
| <p>Forest legislation is the most powerful means of forest policy for ensuring sustainable forestry. The Forest Act lays down provisions on the restrictions and preconditions for the use of forests. The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry promotes forest improvement and environmental management in private forests and the use of wood for energy. There is also legislation on the prevention of forest damage, trade in forest reproductive material, timber measurement, jointly owned forests and organisations in the forestry sector.</p> <p>Total reform of forest legislation was made in 1990's. The Forest Act applies to forests of all forest owners. It aims at promoting economically, socially and ecologically sustainable management of forests in a way that provide a sustainable satisfactory yield while their biological diversity is being maintained.</p> <p>Main priorities include the following: promoting SFM including conservation, enhancement of forest biodiversity and preventing global deforestation. Finland is striving for an international forest convention within the United Nations Forum on Forests. The opinion of Finland is that the forest convention would significantly increase the weight of forests all over the world. In the context of UNFCCC Finland is supporting the recent conversation related to combating deforestation.</p> | |
| Relevant document on forest law or equivalent | F1. Doc |
| Click here for the Finnish Forest Act: http://www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961093.pdf | |

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| Sub national laws (Acts or Codes) | | F1.1 |
| Names of the regions/states/provinces that have formulated sub national forest laws. | NA | |
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| Additional information | | F.1.1. inf |
| NA | | |
| Sub national level - documentation – electronic copy or web link | | F.1.1.Doc |
| NA | | |

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| Main elements of the forest law | | F.2 |
| Please indicate – with YES or NO - if the current forest law makes provision to implement the following forest policy elements and indicate the articles of the law referring to each element: | | |
| - Integrated approach to forest management, conservation and development (including sustainability concerns, ecological values and social interests) | If Yes, mention the law article | F.2.1 |
| - Management to entail sustainable multiple forest uses and benefits (including timber, fuel, food and other forest products, as well as biological diversity and resources, protection of ecosystems and watersheds, recreation and tourism, and other environmental services such as carbon sequestration) | na | F.2.2 |
| - Existence of adequate planning tools (in particular management plans); | na | F.2.3 |
| - Existence of environmental and social impact assessments/audits (e.g. certification schemes); | na | F.2.4 |
| - Transparent forest concessions and other contractual arrangements, with provisions for accountability; | na | F.2.5 |
| - Community-based arrangements, decentralization of responsibilities and devolution of powers to local actors. | na | F.2.6 |
| Other elements – to be specified | na | F.2.7 |

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| Regulations of the forest law | | F.3 |
| na | | |
| Regulations documentation | | F3.Doc |
| see also http://faolex.fao.org/faolex/index.htm | | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| Other national laws and regulations impacting the forestry sector | | F.4 |
| The Act on Jointly Owned Forest (2003) aims that jointly owned forest means an area belonging to | | |

several real estates jointly which is intended to be used for practising sustainable forestry for the benefit of the shareholders.

Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry was reformed in 2006. It will probably come in force in 2008. The new dimensions of the act concern young stand management, supporting of wood-based bioenergy and financing environmental protection.

| | | |
|--|---------------|---------|
| International conventions relevant for forestry signed by the country | | F.5 |
| Finland has ratified the CBD, the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, the UNCCD and participates actively in further work under these conventions as well as the work of the UNFF. Finland has supported developing country participants to attend meetings under these conventions and the UNFF, as well as provided funding for some activities of the CPF. | | |
| International conventions – country reports – web links | | F.5.Doc |
| Country reports – name | Date of issue | Links |
| | | |
| See CPF website – collaborative partnership on Forestry - http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/8016/en/ | | |

3. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

a. Public institutions

Forest Administration

| | |
|--|-------|
| Ministry responsible for forestry matters | A.1 |
| <p>The highest forest authority in Finland is the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF). http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/ministry.html</p> <p>Protected areas and biodiversity conservation fall under the mandate of the Ministry of the Environment.</p> | |
| Forest Administration's name | A.1.1 |
| <p>Forestry Department Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry</p> | |
| Head of Forest Administration | A.1.2 |
| <p>Mr Aarne Reunala, Director-General, tel. +358 (0)9 160 53350</p> | |
| Mandate of the Forest Administration | A.1.3 |
| <p>The task of the MAF is to create the conditions for sustainable and diversified use of renewable natural resources and for developing the economic and leisure-time activities of the countryside. The duties of the MAF also include formulation of forest legislation as well as supervision and monitoring of its implementation.</p> <p>Forest Policy Coordination Mechanism Forest Council (1999) is a forum whose task is to provide support to the MAF in extensive and important principal issues concerning forest policy, to monitor the execution and to promote the implementation of the NFP and as well as to review the Programme.</p> <p>Representatives in the Forest Council: -Ministry of Trade and Industry; -Trade Association of Finnish Forestry and Earth Moving; -Contractors; Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; -Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners MTK; METO - Forestry Experts' Association; (Society of Finnish Professional Foresters); -Metsähallitus; -Finnish Forest Research Institute; -Hunters' Central Organisation; -Finnish Forest Industries Federation; -Ministry of Education; -The Finnish Paper Workers' Union; -Wood and Allied Workers' Union; -Regional Forestry Centre of the Coast (Regional forest councils); -Ministry of the Interior; -Ministry of Social Affairs and Health; -Finnish Association for Nature Conservation; -The Guides and Scouts of Finland (Suomen Latu ry); -Finnish Sawmills; -Ministry of Finance; -WWF Finland; -Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Regional Forest Councils (2001-) work at the regional level to enhance regional forest policy and to support Regional Forest Programmes.</p> <p>The Advisory Board for International Forest Policy (1993) is an expert-level committee which assists the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in dealing with international forest policy issue and assessment of their impacts.</p> | |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Forest Administration Structure – level of subordination | A.2 |
| http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/ministry/organisation.html | |
| Forest Administration – Central level | A.2.1 |
| na | |
| Forest Administration – decentralized level | A.2.2 |
| na | |

| | | | | | |
|---|----|---------------|-------|------------------|-------------|
| Number and qualification of staff in Headquarters and in decentralized offices | | | | | A.3 |
| Year: 2005 (most recent year) | | | | | |
| Staff | HQ | Decentralized | Total | % > 50 years old | % of female |
| Master degree and above | na | | | % | % |
| BSc degree – University level | | | | % | % |
| Technical staff (school) | | | | % | % |
| Forest guards | | | | % | % |

Note:

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry: 36 staff

Ministry of Environment: 6 staff

| | |
|--|----|
| Institutions responsible for the enforcement of the forest laws (if other than the forest administration) | A4 |
| na | |

Forestry Education

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-----|
| Forestry education institutions | | E.1 |
| Institution | Contact details | |
| Finnish Environment Institute and Regional Environment Centres | search google | |
| University of Helsinki (education and research) | search google | |
| University of Joensuu (education and research) | search google | |

| | |
|--|---------|
| Additional information | E.1.Inf |
| Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla and Forestry Development Centre Tapio are also involved in forestry education | |

| Number of graduated students at different levels of education | | | | | | | | E.2 |
|--|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Year : (most recent year) | | | | | | | | |
| Name of Institution | Level of Education provided | | | | | | | |
| | Techn. | % F | BSc | % F | MSc | % F | PhD | % F |
| NA | | % | | % | | % | | % |
| | | % | | % | | % | | % |
| | | % | | % | | % | | % |

Forestry Research

| Forestry research institution(s)/centre(s) | | R.1 |
|---|---|---------|
| Name | E mail address (web site) and location | |
| Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla | Metla's mission is to promote, through research, the ecologically, economically and socially sustainable development of the forests and forestry. Metla conducts research and generates research information about the forest nature and environment, the different uses of forests, and about forestry and the forest cluster. | |
| | | |
| Other institutions/departments doing forestry research | | R.1.1 |
| Name of institutions | E mail address (website) and location | |
| Forestry Development Centre Tapio | see above | |
| University of Helsinki (education and research) | see above | |
| University of Joensuu (education and research) | see above | |
| Additional information | | R.1.Inf |
| | | |

| Staff of forestry research institution(s)/centre(s) | | | | | | | | R.2 |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Year: 2006 (most recent) | | | | | | | | |
| Name of institution/centre | Number and qualification of research staff | | | | | | | |
| | Technical staff | % F | BSc | % F | MSc | % F | PhD | % F |
| Finnish Forest Research Institute, Metla | Total : 922 | | | | | | | |
| Forestry Development Centre Tapio | Total: 20 | | | | | | | |
| University of Helsinki (education and research) | Total: 145 | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| University of Joensuu (education and research) | Total: 90 | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| Forestry research programmes | | R.3 |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Name of institutions/centres | Main research areas | |
| na | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Forestry extension and outreach services

| Forestry extension Services | | | X.1 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
| Name | Contact details | Main activities | |
| na | | | |
| | | | |
| Additional information | | | X.1.Inf |
| <p>Advanced monitoring systems like National Forest Inventory and forest statistics provide scientific and objective information base for decision making.</p> <p>Individual forest management plans give relevant information for the state of forests and forest management recommendations for private forest owners.</p> <p>Universities of Helsinki and Joensuu teach forest related science and many vocational high schools and technical college around the county offer forest education. Different organisations like Regional Forest Centres and Forest Management Associations have forest training for private forest owners and for people interested in forests.</p> <p>Several forests related publications are published for the professionals and non-professionals. Information on forestry is also distributed through consultation and service offices established in cities and built up areas, as well as in conjunction with courses and other training events.</p> | | | |

Other public institutions related to forestry

| Other public organizations involved in forestry | | I.1 |
|---|---|-----|
| Name | Mandate related to forestry | |
| Metsähallitus | <p>Metsähallitus is a state-owned enterprise which manages the forest property of the Republic of Finland. The management of the multifunctional use forests of Metsähallitus is controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, while the management of the nature conservation areas is controlled by the Ministry of the Environment. In addition, Metsähallitus has units for the recreational use of forests, marketing and selling soil and aggregates and respective products, seedling production and sales of construction sites.</p> <p>Total staff: 1474</p> | |
| Finnish Environment Institute and | T&E Centres support and advise enterprises (e.g. enterprises processing wood or producing bioenergy) during their entire lifecycle and also engage in the | |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Regional Environment Centres | development of the innovation environment. They are responsible for the regional employment policy and promote the development of farm economy and rural livelihoods. The 15 regional T&E Centres are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Employment and Economy, the Ministry of Agriculture and forestry and the Ministry of Interior. Total staff: 20 |
| | |

b. Non public institutions

| Private sector organizations (e.g. forest industry associations) | | S.1 |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Name | Contact address | Area of activity/interest |
| Finnish Forest Industries Federation, Metsäteollisuus Ry | see google | - The Finnish Forest Industries Federation, Finnish Sawmills (the federation of independent sawmills) and Sahayrittäjät ry (the organisation of small private sawmills) and many other regional organisations are promoting forest entrepreneurship. |
| Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK) | | |
| The Trade Association of Finnish Forestry and Earth Moving Contractors | | |
| - Finnish Association for Nature Conservation | | |
| - WWF-Finland | | |
| - National Association for Recreational Sports and Outdoor Activities (Suomen Latu) | | |
| | | |

| Civil society organizations (e.g. NGOs, associations, indigenous people organizations) | | S.2 |
|---|---|--|
| Name | Contact address | Area of activity/interest |
| Finnish Forest Association | http://www.smy.fi/smy/SMYeng.nsf | The Finnish Forest Association is an organisation for the co-operation of its members and stakeholder groups; its main activity is communication. The Association's aim is to provide information on the potential of forests in solving societal problems and to promote the acceptance of a responsible use of forests. |
| Forest Management Associations | http://www.mhy.fi/mhy/english/ | It is formed by the forest owners in a certain geographical area, in general, one or a couple of municipalities. The forest management associations are governed by law, and forest owners are obliged to pay the membership fee of an association, called a forest management fee, although membership in itself is not obligatory. The forest management associations also sell their services to forest owners. |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | The mission of the Forest Management Associations is to promote the profitability of forestry practised by forest owners and the realisation of the other goals they have set for forestry, and to advance the economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable management of forests. They provide professional services in matters pertaining to silviculture, timber trade and forest planning. |
|--|--|---|

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

| | |
|---|----------|
| ECONOMY | Z |
| Forest sector contribution to the economy | Z.1 |
| na | |
| Main characteristics of forest related economic policy | Z.2 |
| <p>Main instruments to promote SFM are governmental subsidies and loans to private forest owners to secure the sustainability of timber production, maintain the biological diversity and manage the forest ecosystems. Also in taxation policy some deductions are possible for private forest owners to promote forest management and forestry.</p> <p>Several programmes have been implemented to support rural viability and entrepreneurship. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Trade and Industry have supported financially the rural development.</p> <p>Under the METSO programme the compensation is paid for private forest owners to preserve valuable forest habitats.</p> | |
| Source of information | Z.Doc |
| MCPFE report 2007 | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| FINANCE | D |
| Financial instruments for forestry development | D. 1 |
| <p>The main instrument to promote sustainable forestry is The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry. Also governmental aid is paid for informational needs like education and research, nature conservation and forest restoration.</p> <p>The nature conservation programme METSO in Southern Finland was launched in 2002. METSO programme is a voluntary biodiversity conservation programme which is based on forest-owners' willingness to conserve their forests. The budget of METSO programme was 62 millions euros in 2003-2007. Within the programme forest owners can receive compensation due to nature conservation in private forests.</p> <p>The Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Ministry of Labour have jointly combined their regional forces in the Employment and Economic Development Centres (T&E Centre). The main tasks of T&E Centre in the forest sector are to support and advise small and medium-sized enterprises, to promote technological development, to implement regional labour policies, to plan and organise forest training and to promote and develop rural enterprise activities.</p> <p>European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) has been one of the main financial supporters of rural development and entrepreneurship.</p> | |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Main characteristics of financial instruments | D.2 |
| <p>Main budget lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest related budget: 65 million Euros in 2006 - Forest centres and Tapio: 44 million Euros in 2006 - Metla: 37 million Euros in 2006 <p>In addition to the Government funds shown in the table below, implementation of the NFP also calls for sizeable funding from the private sector. For example, expenses incurred by forest owners for management and improvement works are more than four times as much as public funding. Private funding for research and for development in particular, generally accounts for at least one half of total funding. However, there are also many private-sector R&D projects promoting the aims of the NFP that are conducted without any public funding. In recent years, the forest industry has used approximately €150 million per year for its own R&D.</p> | |
| Source of information | D. Doc |
| <p><i>MCPFE report 2007</i> Ville Manner's report on nfp - ville.manner@mmm.fi</p> | |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Forest revenue (most recent year) | U |
| na | |
| Source of information | U.Doc |
| na | |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Public expenditure - contribution of the public budget to forestry | T |
| <p>The estimated need for funding of the NFP 2015 is compiled in the table presented below. The table covers the financing requirements of the ministries as presented in the annual Government Budget. The aims of the NFP will also be promoted using forest taxation as a tool.</p> | |
| Source of information | T.Doc |
| <p><i>Report nfp</i> Ville Manner : ville.manner@mmm.fi <i>MCPFE report 2007</i></p> <p>The Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry (1996/1094). http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961094 The Forest Act (1996/1093) - http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961093</p> | |

| Categories | Domestic funding (1000 local currency) | External funding (1000 local currency) | Total (1000 local currency) |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|
| | latest year 2008 | latest year 2008 | latest year 2008 |
| Operational expenditure | see table below T.D.2 | T.E.2 | T.T.2 |
| Transfer payments | T.D.1 | T.E.1 | T.T.1 |
| Total public expenditure | T.D | T.E | T.T |

| | |
|---|--|
| If transfer payments are made for forest management and conservation, indicate for what specific objective(s) - Please tick all that apply. T.T.1 | s.1 <input type="checkbox"/> Reforestation s.2 <input type="checkbox"/> Afforestation s.3 <input type="checkbox"/> Forest inventory and/or planning s.4 <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of forest biodiversity s.5 <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of soil and water s.6 <input type="checkbox"/> Forest stand improvement s.7 <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment or maintenance of protected areas s.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify below |
| | s.8 inf. |

| Ministry | Object of funding | Item no | € mill, in 2008 | Need, € mill/yr | |
|--|---|--|--|--|-----------------------|
| Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry | Act on the Financing of Sustainable Forestry - management and basic improvement of forests - use of wood for energy | 30.60.44 | 57 6.5 | 75 10 | |
| | | State subsidies for Forestry Centres | 30.60.42 | 45 | 55 |
| | Funding for the Finnish Forest Research Institute | 30.60.01 | 41 | 40 ¹⁾ | |
| | Conservation of biodiversity | 30.60.45 | 7 | 21 | |
| | Recreation services produced by Metsähallitus | 30.63.50 | 6 | 7 | |
| | Development of rural areas ²⁾ | 30.10.61 30.10.62 | 16 | 16 | |
| Ministry of the Environment | Conservation of biodiversity | 35.01.01 ³⁾ 35.10.21 ⁴⁾ 35.10.52 ²⁾ 35.10.63 | 39 | 66 | |
| | | Recreational use of nature and ensuring the operating conditions for ecotourism ²⁾ | 35.10.52 | 10 | 13 |
| | | Business subsidies ²⁾ | 32.30.40 32.30.42 32.30.45 32.70.64 32.70.65 | 1.5 79 ⁵⁾ | 2 ⁶⁾ 6) |
| | | | Research and corporate funding from National Technology Agency ²⁾ | 32.20.27 32.20.40 32.20.83 | 47 |
| Ministry of Employment and the Economy | Labour policy training ⁷⁾ | 32.80.51 | | 6 | |
| | | Energy subsidies ²⁾ | 32.60.40 | 13 | 8) |
| Ministry of Education | Forest education ²⁾ | 29.20.30 29.20.31 29.40.30 29.50.01 | 110 | 9) | |
| | | Maintenance and services of the road and rail networks - basic road maintenance - basic railway maintenance - maintenance of waterways State subsidies for private roads | 31.24.21 31.40.21 31.30.21 31.25.50 | 61 ¹⁰⁾ 51 ¹¹⁾ | 20 35 2 25 |

1) As a result of the National Productivity Programme, funding for the operative costs of the Finnish Forest Research Institute will decrease, but the amount of external funding is estimated to increase. In the financial statement for 2006, the operating expenses appropriation for the Finnish Forest Research Institute was €38.9 mill. and total funding €52.4 mill.

2) Sub-item; the table shows only the share used for the development of the forest sector.

3) METSO, research

4) METSO, cooperation network, organisation, inventories

5) Finnvera loans, securities and guarantees to the forest industry.

6) The amount of subsidy depends on the number of applications from research institutions and companies that meet the criteria. Current frameworks are not an obstacle to raise the subsidies.

7) Necessary increase/year for the forest sector; in future planning the need to divide the amount between apprenticeship training (Ministry of Education)

and labour policy training (Ministry of Employment and the Economy) must be examined.

8) Determined in the context of the energy and climate strategy to be completed in spring 2008.

9) Determined on the basis of the results of a working group on the education development needs for the forest, wood and paper industries, appointed by the Ministry of Education.

10) Includes €20 million included in the State budget for 2008 and €41 million under decision of 13 March 2008 to safeguard timber transports.

11) Includes €42 million for the basic improvement of the railway between Savonlinna and Huutokoski and €9 million under decision of 13 March 2008 for starting the basic improvement of the railway between Porokylä and Vuokatti.